

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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11

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 AID-20 OMB-01 TRSE-00 NEA-10 OPR-02 RSR-01

/144 W

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R 091530 Z APR 73

FM AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2132

INFO USINT ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY RABAT

AMCONSUL TANGIER

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L CASABLANCA 0310

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MO

SUBJECT: HINTS OF SHIFTS IN MOROCCAN ATTITUDES TOWARDS US

1. SUMMARY. SINCE HASSAN II'S FEBRUARY 22 ANNOUNCEMENT OF DECISION TO SEND MOROCCAN TROOPS TO SYRIA AND PUBLICATION OF HAWADITH INTERVIEW IN WHICH KING MADE AMBIGUOUS COMMENT ABOUT POSSIBLE CIA INVOLVEMENT IN AUGUST 16, 1972 COUP ATTEMPT, WE HAVE NOTED HINTS OF SHIFTS IN USUAL FRIENDLY ATTITUDES OF CASABLANCANS TOWARDS US. AT OFFICIAL LEVEL ATTITUDES APPEAR STIFFER AND MORE FORMAL, ALTHOUGH STILL COOPERATIVE ESPECIALLY IN WAKE OF MARCH 3 BOMB ATTEMPTS AGAINST CONSULATE GENERAL AND USIS. IN ADDITION, SHARPER ANTI- ISRAEL TONE IN SEMI- OFFICIAL GOVERNMENT PAPER LE MATIN MAY HAVE ENCOURAGED SOME GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS TO BE MORE STAND- OFFISH TOWARDS US. MANY CONTINUE TO LINK US WITH LIBYA AND AUGUST 1972 ASSASSINATION ATTEMPT, AND SOME WITH EVENTS OF MARCH 3. WHATEVER THEIR SOURCE, DOUBTS ABOUT US INTENTIONS TOWARDS MOROCCAN REGIME INDICATE THAT MOROCCAN- US RELATIONS, AS VIEWED

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FROM CASABLANCA, MAY BE GOING THROUGH TROUBLED PERIOD.
END SUMMARY.

2. OFFICIAL RELATIONS. CUSTOMS, PORT, AND PTT OFFICIALS
CONTINUE TO GIVE USUAL SLOW BUT NOT UNFRIENDLY SERVICE TO ION, BUT WE
ANTICIPATE
IT WILL BE LARGELY SELF- FINANCED.

4. PROJECT WAS CLEARED OFFICIALLY WITH GOI, WHICH WEL-
COMED NEW IAS BRANCH IN PROVINCE IN WHICH SHAH TAKES
SPECIAL PRIDE FOR ITS DEVELOPMENTAL SUCCESS.

THE AMBASSADOR' S FIRST VISIT OUTSIDE OF TEHRAN WENT

SMOOTHLY.
HELMS

UNCLASSIFIED

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

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Disposition Authority: garlanwa
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